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THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF LONDON



DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY CLERK
K.W. SADLER, CITY CLERK

REGISTERED

September 11, 1995

Ontario Heritage Foundation
10 Adelaide Street East
Toronto ON M5C 1J3

Re: Designation of 650 Elizabeth Street and 446 King Street
The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18

Enclosed for your information is notice of the Council of The Corporation of the City of London's intention to designate the properties identified above pursuant to Subsection 29(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18.

J. A. Malpass

J. A. Malpass
Assistant City Clerk
/crg

Encl.

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF LONDON



DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY CLERK
K.W. SADLER, CITY CLERK

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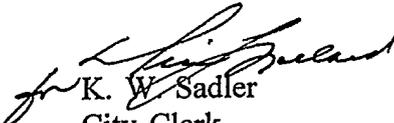
CULTURAL PROGRAMS
HERITAGE UNIT

September 6, 1995

H. G. Howlett
Commissioner of Community Services

I hereby certify that the Municipal Council, at its session held on September 5, 1995 resolved:

3. That, on the recommendation of the London Advisory Committee on Heritage, notice of Council's intentions to designate the property located at 650 Elizabeth Street (T-Block/Military Stores) to be of architectural value or interest be given for the attached reasons under the provisions of section-29(3) of the *Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. O.18*; it being pointed out that the Commissioner of Community Services has concurred in the above recommendation on the understanding that the land to be included in the designation will be shown as is indicated on the assessment roll. (3/18/PC)


K. W. Sadler
City Clerk
/cs

cc: Ontario Heritage Foundation, 77 Bloor Street, 2nd Floor, TORONTO ON M7A 2R9
V. A. Coté, Commissioner of Planning and Development
R. Cerminara, Director of Building Controls
Chair and Members, London Advisory Committee on Heritage
M. Gladysz, Heritage Planner
Clerk Processing*



650 Elizabeth Street (T-Block/Military Stores)

Historical Reasons

The military base at Wolseley Barracks/CFB London is one of the oldest of several institutions (others are associated with health and education) which have been part of the economic and social life of London and which have helped to give the City its distinctive character.

The Military Stores were built as part of the London Infantry School (later Wolseley Hall). The Dominion Government formed the Infantry School Corps in 1883 to train local militia. In 1885, "D" Company was authorized to be stationed in London. The purpose of the Infantry School Corps was twofold: to recruit and train militia officers and to provide leadership and skills in national defence.

The London Infantry School (built in 1886-1888) was located on Carling's Heights, northeast of the City. The architect for the project was Henry James of the Federal Department of Public Works. The construction was overseen by two local architects: George Durand as supervising architect, and Charles Cox as Clerk of Works.

Henry James was trained in England as a civil engineer and worked there with the Great Western Railway. He moved to Canada in the 1870's and worked in Toronto as an engineer until 1878 when he joined the Chief Architect's Branch of the Department of Public Works in Ottawa, then later the Engineer's Branch which was created within the Department of Militia and Defence. Wolseley Hall (A-Block) is arguably the most outstanding example of James' work.

"A" Block is the oldest building at CFB London. Additional buildings including the drill hall, stables and military stores followed the construction of Wolseley Hall. "T" Block served as a residence, workshop and storage building and probably dates back to 1888-1889.

Architectural Reasons

Exterior

The "T" Block has an important, although austere presence. It is similar in design to the much larger "A" Block. The building's eclecticism was typical of late 19th century architecture, with references to typical British military architecture as well as High Victorian and Italianate characteristics. The predominately Italianate influences reflect the success with which aspects of that style could be applied to institutional uses. The high quality materials and craftsmanship used in the construction are apparent. The structure sits on a high sandstone foundation and is built of buff bricks laid in double thickness. The bricks used to build the "A" Block were from the firm of Walker Brothers, and were probably also used on the "T" Block.

This structure is composed of two distinct parts. The larger structure is the Military Stores (as seen on the name stone above the front entrance). This three storey white brick building is composed of two Tuscan towers (campanile) and a three bay wide central entrance. The facade is enlivened with stone horizontal courses which visually break up the building giving it a strong horizontal definition. The towers have both arched and flat windows, with many of the windows having stone headers and sills. Some of the windows have been partially blocked in, and many of the ground floor and basement windows are barred. The mansard roof was originally covered with slate tiles held with copper nails, and several dormers punctuate the roof line. There is a loading dock on the south side of the building, and the front entrance and staircase have been altered. The Military Stores served mainly as a depot for ammunition until the building became the headquarters for the Central Region Cadets.

The smaller structure attached to the north elevation is the Permanent Married Quarters (PMQ). This substantial building presents a more domestic appearance with its tin-roof shed verandah. In the early part of the 20th century, the permanent married quarters were occupied by military staff acting as ordinance officers. After World War II it was occupied by a variety of military personnel until the entire building was used by the Central Region Cadets.

Interior

The remaining interior woodwork in the stairwells of both sides of the building suggests joinery was solid but simple in design.

This report has been reviewed by Parks & Recreation, Community Services Department and the department concurs with heritage designation status of 650 Elizabeth Street - T-Block buildings for the above-noted reasons.



H. Glenn Hewlett
Commissioner of Community Services